

SENATE JUDICIARY

Exhibit No. 8
Date: 2/26/15
Bill No. HB 477

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Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,
Please Vote FOR HB 477, Short Title: Clarify Offense of Aiding or Assisting Suicide.
We need this legislation for the following reasons.

1. We have an ageing population with a declining birth rate. There are fewer workers supporting more of the elderly. There is pressure to cut costs by "putting down" parents and grandparents when their health care becomes a financial burden. This is NOT the way to cut costs. Costs can be cut by getting ambulance chasing lawyers out of the doctor's office. SB 207, Short Title: Revise Laws Related to Defensive Medicine, is a good start. In addition, we need limits on lawyer's contingency fees, the freedom to purchase health insurance across state borders, and Medical Savings Accounts on the Federal level. We CAN cut costs without cutting services.
2. Physicians need guidelines. It must be clear that euthanasia is illegal and also that there are protections for responsible care. Section 1(2)(b) is a provision for palliative care and pain remediation protection for the physician.
3. What we have now is not satisfactory. Clarification of intent is needed, which this bill will do. We must prevent the slippery slope we have seen in the abortion industry where it has progressed to any time up to and including birth.

Yours,



Edwin D. Halland